Philip Morris Responds to Allegations Regarding IARC

Philip Morris issued the following statement:

As our website (www.philipmorris.com) makes clear, we acknowledge that many scientists and regulators have concluded that Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) poses a health risk to nonsmokers. Far from trying in any way to undermine IARC's report on ETS, we are actively disseminating it. Our site includes a direct link to – and no criticism of - an abstract of the IARC study as well as many other studies on the subject.

Our approach to ETS today is to support, through a variety of actions and programs, options designed to minimize unwanted ETS, while still providing adults with pleasant and comfortable places to smoke.

Despite the conclusions of the Lancet article,the Director of IARC study Dr. Paolo Boffetta has been quoted by a Dutch newspaper as saying, "... I rule out that the industry has had actual influence on our study. I know all the participating scientists as incorruptible epidemiologists. This means that all aspects of the study, the analysis, the explanation of the results, the compilation of the final report, have been discussed openly and with all participants. There has never been any difference of opinion within the group. Therefore, I am certain that the contacts with the industry have had no effect on the study."

Today, we would not respond to a scientific study by engaging in all of the activities referred to in the Lancet article. Our approach today is to move towards solving problems – hopefully working in an atmosphere of transparency and open dialogue. Philip Morris intends to continue its commitment to becoming part of a solution.

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/yhgj0001